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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY France-Morocco

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Ex-Sultan of Morocco Falsely Accused of Being German Agent

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1. The Comité France-Maghreb, egged on by General Catroux and François Mauriac, is bringing pressure to bear on the Quai d'Orsay to explain why "Vigie Marocaine" and "France-Soir" were allowed to divulge certain documents held by the Residency at Rabat. The documents in question purport to show that the ex-Sultan of Morocco is compromised as having been a zealous informant of the Nazi diplomats.
2. The Comité France-Maghreb is largely made up of enemies of General Augustin Guillaume. Naturally enough, they accuse the general of responsibility for divulging the documents. His motive is supposed to have been an effort to discredit the Comité France-Maghreb itself, which would thus be shown to have been supporters of a "Hitlerite agent."
3. At best, these documents are to be treated with a degree of skepticism. However, they have been known to the French Government since 1945. From the time of the Liberation, both General de Gaulle and M. Bidault knew all about them but they attached no importance to them. There really was an informer, but he was not the ex-Sultan. The informer was a certain Moulay el Larbi, an agent chosen by the consular representatives of the Reich. This man had access to the palace. In order to make his reports read better, he mixed into them certain pretended conversations with the ex-Sultan or with his entourage. All these documents were considered dubious from the start; and when General de Gaulle made Sidi Mohammed a "Companion of the Liberation" he cleared him of any accusation of having been a collaborator.

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4. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs regrets that the papers were revealed in so inconsiderate a manner, especially because revealing them hampers the understanding now sought in Morocco. The French Government, since the ex-Sultan was dethroned, has tried hard not to disturb the old sovereign in any way. In his enforced residence in Corsica, he is the object of respect by the local authorities.
5. The whole matter was taken up at a meeting of the Council of Ministers. Several members of Laniel's Cabinet took issue with what has been going on in the Residency. That is how rumors got about that General Guillaume was leaving. In fact, it is hard to conceive his being relieved when the Laniel Cabinet has been in office so short a time.

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